

May 10, 2022

**Empire Township Board  
Regular Meeting**

Supervisor Noonan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. Present were members Deegan, Carl Noonan, Casey Noonan, Price, and Neiswonger. Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022 regular meeting and the April 16, 2022 special meeting as written. All ayes.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Price reported on CDs and bank accounts as of 04-30-2022. Report received as read.

Planning & Zoning Report: 1.) Zoning Administrator, Tim Cypher, issued the following permits/approvals in April: 1) Four decks-Villa Glen Dr. 2) Garage-Golden Valley Rd. 3) Breezeway, garage-Bow Rd. 4) Garage-Hermies Pass 5) Accessory bldg.-Benzonia Tr. 6) Porch-Dunns Farm Rd. 7) Carport-Southpointe Rd. 2.) Trustee Deegan reported that Planning was reviewing affordable housing concepts for the Master Plan update. Ideas such as smaller buildings/lots and duplexes were discussed. Trustee Deegan will continue to keep the Board informed on Planning's discussions.

Supervisor Report: 1.) John Collins, representing the South Bar Lake Association (SBLA), requested that the township support a S. Bar study this summer that would focus on two areas where nutrients enter the lake. John explained that he was asking Empire Village and Empire Township to share the cost of a Grobbel Associates study of \$2950 that would test the waters for nutrients at the intersection of Lake/Niagara and the end of Florence St. After further discussion, motion was made by Neiswonger; support-Deegan that Empire Township will contribute \$1500.00 this year to the nutrient studies as presented by the SBLA. All ayes. 2.) Claude Fields, Maple Grove Cemetery manager, requested that the Board make a decision whether to allow winter and natural burials at the cemetery. After review of the difficulties involved in winter burials, such as deep snow and possible damages to tombstones and the necessity to allow green burials even in the winter, motion was made by Carl Noonan; support-Price to approve winter and green burials at Maple Grove Cemetery. 1 aye. 4 nays. Motion failed to allow winter and natural burials at Maple Grove Cemetery.

Clerk Report: 1.) Empire Village's Master Plan transportation plan is available for review. 2.) Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to pay the May 2022 monthly bills as presented and attached. All ayes.

Final Business: Fire Chief Ferguson reported that due to dry conditions no fires were allowed in the area. Bryan noted that a new engine specs were out for a quote and once again the vehicle would be manufactured to fit in Empire's station.

All business being concluded the meeting was adjourned by the Supervisor at 8:25 p.m.

Christine M. Neiswonger, Clerk